

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PRETOR 05137 101526Z

41

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 ACDA-07 /097 W

----- 045604

P 101506Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6122

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 5137

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, ENRG, EINV, RH, SF

SUBJECT: ALLEGED DIVERSIONS TO RHODESIA BY MOBIL OIL SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 249989

1. SAG PROVIDED ENTIRELY NEGATIVE REPLY TO OUR INQUIRY
CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF SECURING DOCUMENTS FROM
MOBIL OIL SOUTH AFRICA.

2. TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE DATED NOVEMBER 10 FOLLOWS:
"WITH REFERENCE TO THE AIDE-MEMOIRE LEFT WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 12 OCTOBER 1976, THE
SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO CONFIRM THAT THE
OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT PROHIBITS MOBIL OIL SOUTH AFRICA (PTY)
LIMITED FROM SUPPLYING THE DESIRED DOCUMENTS TO MOBIL OIL US.
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW WOULD RENDER THE COMPANY
LIABLE TO THE PENALTIES PRESCRIBED BY THE ACT.
"THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT REGRETS THAT IT IS NOT IN
A POSITION TO WAIVE THIS PROHIBITION NOR DOES IT SEE ITS
WAY CLEAR TO INTERVENING IN THE MATTER IN ANY WAY."

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PRETOR 05137 101526Z

3. ON RECEIVING NOTE ECON COUNSELOR EXPRESSED

DISAPPOINTMENT OVER ABSENCE OF ANY FLEXIBILITY IN VIEW
OF EARLIER HINTS BY STEYN THAT MATTER PROPERLY APPROACHED
ON GOVT-TO-GOV'T BASIS. ONLY COMMENT BY DFA OFFICIAL
(DEPUTY SECRETARY KILLEEN OF AFRICA DIVISION) WAS THAT
OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT IMPOSED BAN ON DISCLOSURE BY ANY
COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER SA LAWS.

4. SINCE SAG CLASSIFIED AIDE MEMOIRE CONFIDENTIAL, WE
SHOULD SECURE THEIR CONSENT OR INFORM THEM IN ADVANCE BEFORE
MAKING PRECISE CONTENTS PUBLIC.

BOWDLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, DOCUMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRETOR05137
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DECONTROLLED PER 7/20 NOTE FROM STANLEY SUMMERFIELD
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760419-0044
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761162/aaaacboy.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 249989
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisa0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 AUG 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2004 by oatisa0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED DIVERSIONS TO RHODESIA BY MOBIL OIL SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: ESTC, ENRG, EINV, BDIS, RH, SF, MOBIL SOUTH AFRICA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006